

**Oxford Historical Society
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 22, 2013, 7 p.m.
The Homestead**

Please bring a copy of these minutes with you to our next meeting on Monday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at the Homestead. Note change of date due to the Memorial Day Weekend holiday.

President Louise Burr called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report – Dorothy DeBisschop moved to accept the Secretary's Report as corrected; second by Marilyn Serus. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Nancy Farnum moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved; second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

Homestead Report – Dorothy DeBisschop

- a. **Outdoor Light Repair** – The light is repaired. It goes off and on automatically. If needed, there is an adjustment in the basement.
- b. **Window Replacement Plan** – We have applied for a \$3,000 grant from the Valley Community Foundation. Dorothy is preparing a second grant from the Matthies Foundation also for \$3,000. On June 1, we will apply for a third grant from the Naugatuck Savings Bank Foundation. We will use the money given to us to go as far as we can on both phases of installing new windows in the Homestead.
- c. **Continuation of Homestead Renovations -- Proposed Work Parties** – The deck will be stained soon and crews will be needed to prepare windows for installation.
- d. **Reconstruction of the Jensen Family Loom** – Nancy Farnum will call Judy Mason to see when she is ready to start. We will have to move anything out of the Twitchell Room that could be damaged.
- e. **New Pump** – Eastern Water Supply installed a new pump at the Homestead last week. They gave us a credit for \$350; the remaining bill was \$950.

Membership Report – Marilyn Serus – Since our March meeting, we have received 5 senior, 2 individual and 1 family memberships.

Any Other Reports – Barbara Robinson reported that Rob said that we could not put in a curtain drain to solve our difficulties with water pooling in the driveway due to ledge.

OLD BUSINESS

Videotape Interviews of Longtime Oxford Residents – Marilyn Stebar – The interview scheduled for today was cancelled because the interviewee was ill. Plans are being made to videotape others including Beulah Renker and Carol Zwick. June Behuniak has items she would like to donate.

Open Museum Days Docent Schedule – Nancy Farnum (Sign-Up Sheet) – We need docents for May, June and July.

New Folding Chairs and Labels –Cindy Joy – The labels keep falling off; rubber cement was suggested. We have 24 chairs and a donation from Catherine Helm for 1 more. We are waiting for donations for the other three.

Calendar Sales – Louise Burr – The calendar order will be sent in June. We have received about half the orders we need for the best discount.

Any Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Tag Sale – Saturday, June 22, 7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., Homestead Grounds. Rain Date: June 29 – Marcia Wrogg and Jane Hulbert. The rain date will be June 29. If vendors will give us their e-mail addresses, we can let them now if we postpone. We will need volunteers, including someone to handle parking.

Author John Cilio Presentation: “Women’s Work in World War II”: Sunday, May 5, 3 p.m.

Volunteers Needed (Sign-Up Sheet) – Dorothy DeBisschop. Docents volunteered to cover the museum for the open hours. A press release is nearly ready. Nancy Farnum will put out posters.

New Notepaper with Photographs – Marilyn Serus – Marilyn will have the notepaper ready for Oxford Day.

Oxford Day Planning – June 8, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Oxford High School. Volunteers Needed.

(Sign –Up Sheet) – Dorothy DeBisschop – Dorothy will check to see if we can sell baked goods. She and Cindy Joy are preparing a new tri-fold brochure about the Homestead Museum and our Society.

Date for Our Next Meeting: Monday, May 27, Falls on Memorial Day Weekend – Nancy Farnum moved that we back up both the Executive board and General Meetings in May. The Executive Board would meet on May 14; the General Meeting would be held May 20. Second by Dorothy DeBisschop. All in favor.

Volunteer for Refreshments for Our Next Meeting – Loretta Rowland kindly volunteered to bring refreshments for the May 20 meeting.

Any Other New Business

Gordon Williams Programs – Marilyn Serus passed around information about presenter Gordon Williams. We would like someone to preview him as a potential speaker.

Pewter Ornaments – Marilyn Serus asked how many pewter Christmas Homestead ornaments we still have in stock. She will get more for us from a Boy Scout representative if we need them.

“Civil War Songs and the Men Who Wrote Them” – Marilyn Serus is attending a History Bites lecture in Southbury: “Civil War Songs and the Men Who Wrote Them”and wondered if anyone else would like to attend. Jack Konicki commented that the series is excellent.

Garden – Barbara Robinson expressed concern that the women from the Master Gardener’s program have not been in touch yet this spring. Dorothy DeBisschop will call her contact.

ADJOURNMENT

Dorothy DeBisschop moved that we adjourn; second by Marilyn Stebar. All in favor.

Following refreshments, the group viewed the Civil War DVD: “Campaign for Chattanooga.”

